

# Sewage Self Assessment

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**PIBS 8974e**

Version 1.0.1.0

### PLEASE READ THIS FIRST:

Helpful tips for using this self assessment.

This voluntary and anonymous self-assessment has been developed to help you evaluate your facility's compliance level with Ontario's environmental legislation related to private, commercial, and industrial sewage.

Keep the following in mind as you use this self-assessment:

- **Your “yes” responses** will indicate:
  - how knowledgeable you are about the relevant legislation
  - how well you may be reducing your impact on the environment
- This self assessment is designed so you can fill it out at your leisure and save your responses for future reference.
- We recommend that you **use your initial responses as a benchmark** for your facility's compliance program. Over time, you can refer back to these responses to ensure you continue to increase the number of “yes” responses as you work towards environmental improvement.
- Once you have completed this self-assessment, save and print the entire document so you have the questions, answers and support information.

**Glossary terms** are shown as **bold, green links** that will take you to their definitions in the Glossary section at the end of the document. When you're ready to go back to where you were, you can use the “jump back to” shortcuts to get you to the right question faster.

Remember to save this document as you progress to ensure your responses are not lost. If you leave this document to visit another website or document your responses will remain intact.

### A NOTE ON PRINTING AND SAVING THIS DOCUMENT

Depending on the version of Adobe software you are using, you may have trouble saving your document. If this document will not 'save as', you may have to click on 'print' and then 'print to adobe file' to save this document.

## Introduction

The Ministry of the Environment developed this self assessment tool to help you evaluate your compliance with Ontario's sewage-related environmental legislation and standards. The following questions will help you understand these responsibilities.

The Self Assessment will answer key questions about your regulatory responsibilities and help you prepare for future inspections that the ministry may conduct at your facility.

The Ministry of the Environment is transforming the environmental approvals program by implementing a two path, risk-based environmental approvals process that is consistent with leading jurisdictions across Canada, the U.S. and abroad. Moving to a risk-based framework allows the ministry to focus on environmental protection while making the process more effective and user-friendly for businesses. The new risk-based process includes a self-registration process for certain routine, standard and well-understood sectors and activities. Persons engaging in such sectors/activities may register the sector/activity in the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry ([EASR](#)).

For more complex and unique sectors and activities, a streamlined single approval from the Ministry of the Environment, [Environmental Compliance Approvals \(ECA\)](#), addresses all of a business's emissions, discharges and wastes.

Contact your [local ministry district office](#) if you have any questions about your facility's operation.

## Disclaimer

This document is provided for information purposes only and is not intended as specific advice or recommendations in any circumstances. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this Self Assessment, the information provided is intended to be of a general nature.

The purpose of this Self Assessment is to assist users with understanding their responsibilities and should not be construed as legal advice. Users should satisfy themselves with respect to their full obligations regarding provincial environmental legislation and should engage technical experts and legal counsel as necessary to determine compliance. The Ministry of the Environment is not responsible for any damages whatsoever arising from the interpretation of information presented in this document.

Legislative references in this document are effective as of the date this document was published. Where there is a discrepancy between this document and the legislation, the legislation prevails. The legislation may be obtained from Ontario's e-laws website at [www.e-laws.gov.on.ca](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca) or from the ministry's **Public Information Centre**.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS SELF ASSESSMENT APPLIES TO PRIVATE, COMMERCIAL, AND INDUSTRIAL SEWAGE WORKS. THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT APPLY TO MUNICIPALLY-OWNED SEWAGE WORKS.**

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## Section 1.0

### Do you need an environmental compliance approval or permit for your sewage works?

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#### Question 1.1 Do you know what legislation requires you to obtain an Environmental Compliance Approval or permit for your sewage works?

Yes  No

**Environmental Compliance Approval** (ECA) is the name for environmental approvals and replaces the term “Certificate of Approval” under the [Environmental Protection Act \(EPA\)](#) and the term “approvals” under the [Ontario Water Resources Act \(OWRA\)](#). The Ministry of the Environment administers both acts.

The Environmental Compliance Approval process includes the ability to apply for a single ECA that addresses all of a business’s emissions, discharges and wastes. For example, if your facility has more than one type of environmental impact (i.e. discharge to water and air emissions) you can apply for the required approvals in one application. Separate approvals for air, noise and waste are no longer required.

An [Environmental Compliance Approval](#) (ECA) for **sewage works** is required under the OWRA, and issued under the EPA:

- Section 53 of the OWRA requires approval prior to using, operating, establishing, altering, extending or replacing new or existing sewage works.
- Although the requirement to obtain an ECA for sewage works is in the OWRA, as of October 31, 2011, Environmental Compliance Approvals are issued under Section 20.2 of the EPA. Sewage works approvals in effect before October 31, 2011, and their terms and conditions, remain in effect and can be amended, reviewed, suspended and revoked as if they were an ECA.

A permit for some **sewage systems** is required under the [Building Code Act](#) (BCA):

- **Sewage systems**, as defined in the [Ontario Building Code](#) (Ontario Regulation 350 under the Building Code Act), require a permit under Section 10.1 of the BCA instead of an ECA. The [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#) administers the BCA.

Sections 1.0 and 2.0 of this Self Assessment will help you determine if you need an ECA or a permit under the BCA, and whether the sewage works/system is exempt from approval/permitting requirements.

**Question 1.2 Does your facility collect, transmit, store, treat, or dispose of sewage?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Are there toilets, sinks, and/or laundry or kitchen facilities at your site?
- Are there works in place for collecting and/or transmitting stormwater or drainage?
- Do commercial or industrial processes at the facility generate wastewater?
- Are there any holding/storage tanks on the property?

Yes       No

**Sewage** (wastewater) includes everything that you flush down your toilet or rinse down the drain; water that has been used by industries, businesses, institutions (i.e. hospitals); and rainwater and runoff (**stormwater**) that go down street gutters or flows into surface water.

If your facility collects, transmits, stores, treats or disposes of sewage, your **sewage works** may require an [Environmental Compliance Approval](#) from the Ministry of the Environment or a permit for a **sewage system** under the [Building Code Act](#).

**Question 1.3 Do you know where your sewage goes?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is your facility connected to a municipal sanitary sewage collection system?
- Is there equipment to store or treat sewage on your property?

Yes       No

If you do not know where your **sewage** goes, it is your responsibility to determine whether you are the owner of infrastructure designed to collect, transmit, store, treat or dispose of sewage and obtain any necessary approvals/permits.

**Private and Commercial Sewage Works**

If your facility is located within a municipality or organized area, your sewage may be collected and treated in a communal (e.g. municipal) **sewage works**. In this case, you likely receive a bill on at least an annual basis to cover the cost of sewage services and the municipality would be responsible for obtaining an **Environmental Compliance Approval** (ECA) and operating the sewage works.

If your facility is located inside a multi-unit building, it is likely that you are serviced by communal sewage works. In this case the municipality (or owner of the building) would

be responsible for operating and obtaining any required approvals for the sewage works.

### Industrial Sewage Works

If you operate an industrial facility and do not have an agreement with the municipality to allow you to discharge your sewage into a municipal **sanitary sewage** collection system, you likely own and operate an industrial sewage works that requires an ECA from the Ministry of the Environment.

Subsection 53(6) of the [Ontario Water Resources Act](#) states that an ECA is not required for privately-owned sewage works designed to partially treat sewage that is to drain or be discharged into a sanitary sewer (a legal agreement with the owner of the sanitary sewer is required to satisfy this exemption).

An ECA is required for sewage works which discharge into a municipal **stormwater sewer**.

### **Question 1.4 Is your sewage works excepted or exempted from the requirement to obtain an Environmental Compliance Approval?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Does the sewage ultimately drain into a sanitary sewer for treatment offsite?
- Is the sewage works defined as a “drainage works” regulated under the Drainage Act?
- Is the main purpose of the sewage works to drain the land for agricultural activity?
- Is the sewage works a stormwater management facility consistent with Section 3 of the Approval Exemptions Regulation (Ontario Regulation 525/98) made under the Ontario Water Resources Act?
- Is the sewage works part of a renewable energy project?

Yes       No

**Sewage works** can be excepted or exempted from the requirement to obtain an **Environmental Compliance Approval** through subsection 53(6) of the Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA), the Approval Exemptions Regulation (Ontario Regulation 525/98) made under the OWRA, and Part V.0.1 (Renewable Energy) of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA).

[OWRA](#) subsection 53(6) exceptions include:

- Routine maintenance carried out on any sewage works.

- Sewage works from which sewage is not to drain or be discharged directly or indirectly into a ditch, drain or storm sewer or a well, lake, river, pond, spring, stream, reservoir or other water or watercourse.
- Privately-owned sewage works designed to partially treat sewage that is to drain or be discharged into a sanitary sewer (a legal agreement with the owner of the sanitary sewer is required to satisfy this exemption).
- Sewage system subject to the [Building Code Act](#).
- Drainage works under the [Drainage Act](#) or a sewage works where the main purpose of the works is to drain land for agricultural activity.
- Drainage works under the [Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act](#), the [Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act](#) or The Railways Act, being chapter 331 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1950.
- Such sewage works as may be exempted by regulation.

[Approval Exemptions Regulation \(Ontario Regulation 525/98\)](#) made under the OWRA exempts:

- Sewer service connections and appurtenances
- Same size and capacity replacement sewers (not including combined sewers); and
- **Stormwater** management facilities designed to
  - serve a single lot or parcel of land (excluding industrial land); and
  - discharge into a storm sewer (but not a combined sewer).

### [EPA Part V.0.1 \(Renewable Energy\)](#)

- Subsection 47.3(2) of the EPA exempts sewage works associated with renewable energy projects from the OWRA approval requirement.
- Applicable [renewable energy](#) projects are required to obtain a comprehensive Renewable Energy Approval which covers all required ministry approvals for the undertaking (i.e. sewage, air, waste, noise).

**Question 1.5 Does your sewage works discharge to surface water or the ground surface?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is the sewage, or treated sewage, discharged through a pipe to surface water or on top of the ground?
- Is treated sewage applied to land through spray irrigation?
- Is the sewage treated in a lagoon that does not discharge but allows the liquid to infiltrate the ground surface?

Yes  No

You must obtain an **Environmental Compliance Approval** (ECA) from the Ministry of before using, operating, establishing, altering, extending or replacing **sewage works** which discharge to surface water or the ground surface and do not meet the exception criteria in the [Ontario Water Resources Act](#) or the exemptions listed in the Approvals Exemptions Regulation (Ontario Regulation 525/98) under the Act.

The services of a qualified consulting firm familiar with sewage works impacts and design are generally required to prepare the documentation necessary to support the [ECA application](#). Obtain these services early in the design and decision making process so you and your consultant can discuss technical details such as the proposed scope and extent of the supporting information requirements with the [Ministry of the Environment](#) during **pre-application consultation**.

**Question 1.6 Does your sewage works/system discharge below the ground surface?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is your facility located in an area where municipal/communal sewage services are not available?
- Is a discharge point visible on the property?
- Do you have a septic system?

If your sewage works/system discharges below the ground surface, the questions in Section 2.0 will help you identify whether you require an **Environmental Compliance Approval** from the Ministry of the Environment or a permit under the Building Code Act.

Yes  No

Sewage works/systems that discharge below the ground surface (e.g. septic systems) are regulated by the Ministry of the Environment through the [Ontario Water Resources](#)

[Act](#) and [Environmental Protection Act](#), **or** the [Building Code Act](#) (BCA) administered by the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#), depending on their size and characteristics.

The term “**sewage works**” is used in the OWRA and the term “**sewage systems**” is used in the BCA.

**Question 1.7 Do you know how to obtain Environmental Compliance Approval from the Ministry of the Environment?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Do you know how to obtain a copy of the application for an Environmental Compliance Approval, and what resources are available to assist with completing the application?

Yes  No

Download the **Environmental Compliance Approval** (ECA) application [here](#). The minimum requirements for an application are set out in the Applications for Environmental Compliance Approvals Regulations ([Ontario Regulation 255/11](#)) made under the Environmental Protection Act. Ontario Regulation 255/11 sets out information that the **ministry** needs before it begins to review the application, but does not refer to any of the supporting documentation and technical information that may be required for the technical review of the application.

These documents are useful when preparing to apply for an ECA for a sewage works:

- [Guide to Applying for an ECA](#)
- [Design Guidelines for Sewage Works, 2008](#)

Complex proposals or site-specific conditions may prompt the Ministry of the Environment to ask for information over and above the minimum requirements. The **Director** has the authority to request such information that is necessary to review the application. Application costs will vary considerably depending on complexity and must be provided with the application when it is submitted for review.

It does not matter if the operations at your facility already exist or if you are in the planning and development stage of a project; an approval is required in both cases. **It is strongly recommended that you consult the ministry before submitting your approval application to confirm supporting information requirements and site specific considerations.**

You must comply with all of the conditions listed in any ECA issued to you by the Ministry of the Environment.

For more information about ECAs, to get an application package, or to apply for an ECA amendment, contact:

Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch

Telephone: 416-314-8001

Toll free: 1-800-461-6290

Email: [EAASIBGen@ontario.ca](mailto:EAASIBGen@ontario.ca)

Completed applications for Environmental Compliance Approvals should be submitted to the applicable [District and/or Area Office](#), as well as:

Director

Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch

Ministry of the Environment

2 St. Clair Ave W, Floor 12A

Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

### **Question 1.8 Does your sewage works require financial assurance?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is your sewage works located in an unorganized area?
- Do you have a responsibility agreement with the local government agency (e.g., municipality, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing) to take over the works in the event of default?

Yes       No

**Financial Assurance** is authorized under Part XII of the [Environmental Protection Act](#) (EPA) and allows Directors to require regulated parties to provide financial security as a condition of a Director's Order (specific type of **control document**), **Environmental Compliance Approval** (ECA) or by regulation.

Where applicable, the [ECA application](#) must include an estimate of the required amount of financial assurance. See the [Financial Assurance Guideline, Guideline F-15](#) for information about applicable facilities, requirements, acceptable forms (e.g., cash, irrevocable letter of credit), and calculating the necessary amount of financial assurance.

Financial assurance will not normally be required of other provincial ministries, other public bodies or institutions.

Financial assurance may not be required for communal private and commercial sewage works if a **responsibility agreement** is in place which requires the municipality, or another governmental organization, to become responsible for the operation and maintenance of the facility in the event of default.

The requirement for financial assurance for other private and commercial sewage works, and industrial sewage works, is at the discretion of the ministry. It will generally be required if

- the proponent has a poor compliance history;
- the review engineer feels there is a need due to the size and/or complexity of the works;
- there is a sensitive land use on, or adjacent, to the site;
- it is recommended by staff in the local District Office of the Ministry of the Environment.

### **Question 1.9 Are you aware of policy, legislation, and agreements that could impact the design or expansion of your sewage works?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is your proposed sewage works consistent with the servicing options identified in municipal planning documents?
- Is the sewage works located within a vulnerable area identified in a source protection plan?
- Is the sewage works located in the Lake Simcoe watershed?
- Is the sewage works located within the Great Lakes watershed?

Yes       No

You should be aware of any potential limitations and restrictions, and the impact they may have on your sewage works in terms of both planning and long term operation.

The [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Provincial Policy Statement](#) guides planning authorities by helping to define appropriate servicing options, including the type, location, and number of facilities permitted within a given area.

Site specific **effluent** discharge requirements specified in Ministry of the Environment approvals are determined using:

- [Procedure B-1-5: Deriving Receiving Water Based, Point Source Effluent Requirements for Ontario Waters](#) (for discharges to surface water); and
- [Guideline B-7: Incorporation of the Reasonable Use Concept into MOEE Groundwater Management Activities](#) (for groundwater impacts).

These procedures and guidelines also provide the basis for direction provided in **control documents** which the ministry may issue to address **non-compliance**, or when impairment of human health and/or the environment is anticipated.

The [Clean Water Act](#) and [Lake Simcoe Protection Act](#) are geared toward protecting water resources and provide mechanisms for applying stringent requirements and/or prohibiting certain activities in vulnerable areas.

The Clean Water Act gives communities in Ontario the authority to develop [source protection](#) plans to protect their municipal sources of drinking water. Your local municipality or conservation authority can provide more information about any source protection requirements in your area.

There are also agreements in place that could impact sewage works around the [Great Lakes](#). These agreements are part of the overall [Great Lakes Strategy](#), and aim to protect and restore habitat, prevent pollution, and clean up [areas of concern](#):

- [Canada- Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem](#)
- [Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement](#)

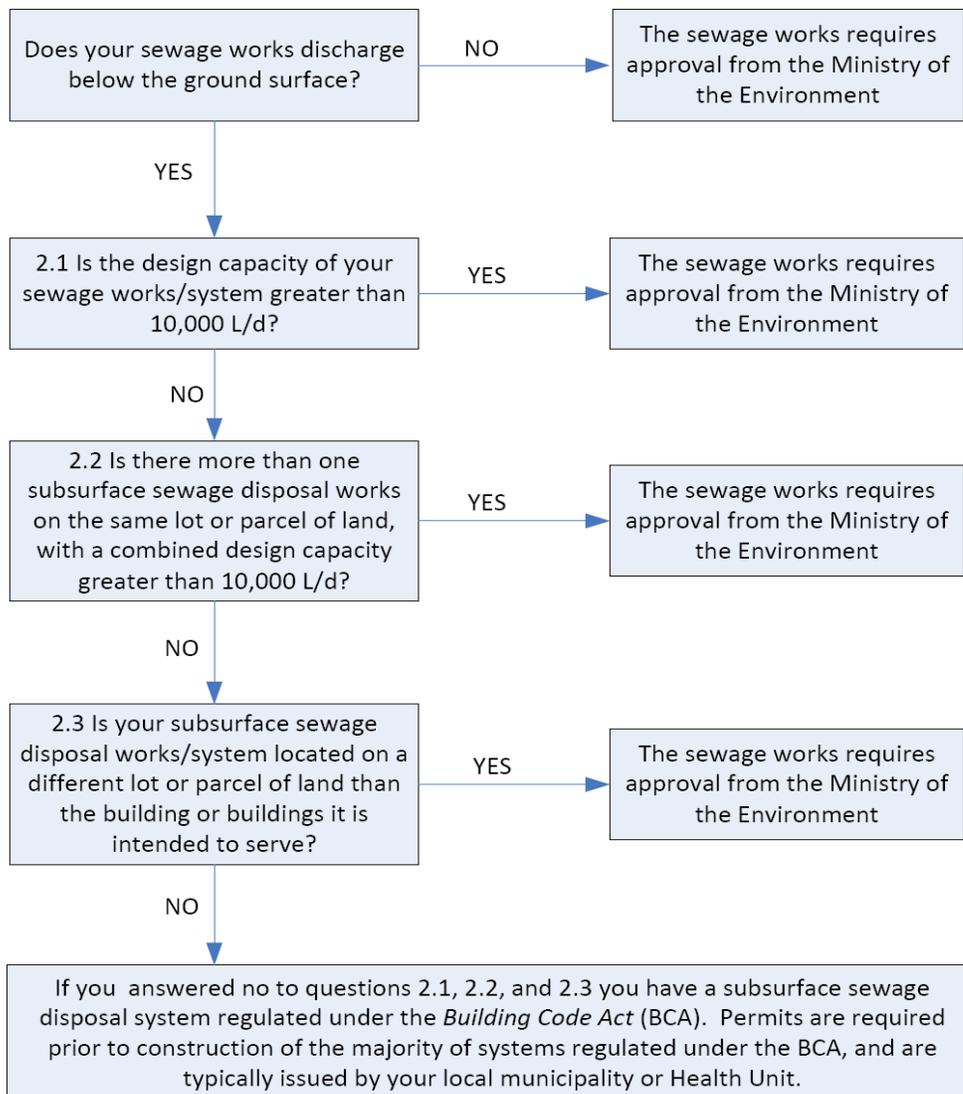
## Section 2.0

### Do you know who regulates your subsurface sewage disposal works?

The decision tree helps users move through this section. Each question in the decision tree follows in text and includes questions to be considered when providing a response.

#### Decision Tree: Who Regulates Your Subsurface Sewage Disposal Works?

**Please Note:** If you respond yes to any of the questions in Section 2.0, and you do not meet the exemption or exception criteria discussed in Question 1.4, your subsurface sewage disposal works requires approval from the Ministry of the Environment. Approval is required before using, operating, establishing, altering, extending or replacing applicable sewage works.



**Question 2.1 Is the design capacity of your sewage works/system greater than 10,000 litres per day?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- What type of facility do you have? Would it be considered residential occupancy or another type of occupancy (e.g. food service operation, doctors/dentists office, church)?
- Do you have comprehensive information about the water usage or sewage flows for the facility?

Yes  No

**Subsurface sewage disposal works** with a design capacity greater than 10,000 litres per day (L/d) require an [Environmental Compliance Approval](#) from the Ministry of the Environment.

Use Tables 8.2.1.3.A (Residential Occupancy) and 8.2.1.3.B (Other Occupancies) in the [Ontario Building Code](#) (Regulation 350 under the Building Code Act) to estimate whether the design capacity of your sewage works is less than or equal to 10,000 L/d unless you have comprehensive flow data available.

If you have flow data for the facility which was collected over a number of years, and during various periods of the year so it reflects seasonal differences, the ministry will consider the use of this data as an alternative to the design flows provided in the Ontario Building Code tables.

If your subsurface sewage disposal works/system has a design capacity less than or equal to 10,000 L/d, the responses to Questions 2.2 and 2.3 need to be considered to determine if approval is required from the Ministry of the Environment or a permit is required under the [Building Code Act](#).

**Question 2.2 Is there more than one subsurface sewage disposal works on a lot or parcel of land with a combined design capacity greater than 10,000 litres per day?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is the facility serviced by more than one subsurface sewage disposal works? If so, what is the total design capacity of all of these works?

Yes  No

If there is more than one **subsurface sewage disposal works** on a lot, and they have a combined design capacity greater than 10,000 litres per day (L/d), an [Environmental Compliance Approval](#) is required from the Ministry of the Environment.

If there is more than one **subsurface sewage disposal works/systems** on a lot, and they have a combined design capacity of 10,000 L/d or less, the responses to Questions 2.1 and 2.3 need to be considered to determine if approval is required from the Ministry of the Environment or a permit is required under the [Building Code Act](#).

**Question 2.3**     **Is your subsurface sewage disposal works/system located on a different lot or parcel of land than the building or buildings it is intended to serve?**

Yes                       No

**Subsurface sewage disposal works** that are not located on the same lot or parcel of land as the building(s) they are serving require an [Environmental Compliance Approval](#) from the Ministry of the Environment, regardless of design capacity.

If the **subsurface sewage disposal works/systems** are located wholly within the boundaries of the lot or parcel of land the building(s) they serve the responses to Questions 2.1 and 2.2 need to be considered to determine if approval is required from the Ministry of the Environment or a permit is required under the [Building Code Act](#).

**If the answer to all of the questions in Section 2.0 are no, you have a subsurface sewage disposal system regulated under the Building Code Act. Permits are required before construction of the majority of systems regulated under the Act, and are typically issued by your local municipality or health unit.**

## Section 3.0

### Do you have an existing approval?

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#### **Question 3.1** Have you acquired a facility with, or are you thinking about acquiring a facility with, an existing sewage works?

In answering this question you should consider:

- Does the facility have a sewage works, as defined in Question 1.2?

Yes       No

If you are acquiring a facility with an existing **sewage works**, it is important to make sure that you receive copies of

- All applicable approvals
- Operation and maintenance records
- Past Ministry of the Environment inspection reports (as applicable)
- Copies of any ministry **control documents** and correspondence.

The owner is responsible for ensuring that all sewage works have, and are operated in compliance with, an **Environmental Compliance Approval**. When you acquire a **sewage works**, you become responsible for all obligations associated with the sewage works at the time of purchase.

It is to your benefit to ensure the appropriate approval is in place, the sewage works is accurately reflected by the approval and you are aware of any actions required by the ministry. You should also be familiar with monitoring, operational, and maintenance requirements and ongoing costs associated with using the sewage works.

#### **Question 3.2** Has your facility been expanded, or do you suspect it's been expanded, beyond what was approved?

In answering this question you should consider:

- Are there sewage works at the facility that are not reflected in the current approval?
- Are the estimated design flows for the sewage works consistent with the design capacity specified on the approval?
- Have you increased the number of toilets, sinks, laundry facilities, etc?
- Have you recently provided running water to the facility?

- Have you put an addition on a building/structure serviced by the sewage works?
- Has there been a change in an industrial process which has increased water use?

Yes       No

Using, operating, establishing, altering, extending, or replacing an applicable **sewage works** without first obtaining the required approval is a violation of both the [Environmental Protection Act](#) and the [Ontario Water Resources Act](#).

If the sewage works has (or you suspect it has) been extended or altered without the applicable approval/permit having been obtained, it is the owner's responsibility to have the sewage works evaluated and to apply for any necessary approvals or amendments.

### **Question 3.3      Has there been a change in the quality or quantity of sewage?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Has the use of the facility changed since the sewage works was approved (e.g. addition of a garage or laundromat)?
- Has there been a change in industrial processes or a new process introduced?
- Has the facility started accepting offsite sewage such as leachate?
- Has the discharge volume increased?
- Has the rate of discharge increased?

Yes       No

Information about sewage quality and quantity is required in support of your [approval application](#), and is a big consideration in determining whether the proposed **sewage works** is likely to cause adverse human health or environmental impacts. The sewage works approval is tailored to the specific information provided in support of the approval application.

Changes in the type of raw sewage (e.g. addition of oil and grease from a mechanic's garage), or treated sewage (i.e. increase in speed or volume of discharge) may require different or additional treatment/technology than was initially approved.

If there has been a change in the quality or quantity of sewage since the approval was granted, the ministry recommends you retain the services of an environmental consultant with relevant experience to discuss the nature of the changes and ensure you have the appropriate approval.

**Question 3.4 Are you planning to perform work on your sewage works?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Are you planning to alter, extend or replace your sewage works?
- Are you planning to conduct routine maintenance activities?

Yes  No

An amendment to your **sewage works** approval is required **before** altering, extending or replacing a sewage works.

Operational and maintenance activities do not typically require approval unless they will result in a change to the sewage works and/or quantity or quality of the sewage being treated or **effluent** discharged.

If planned operational/maintenance activities will disrupt sewage treatment, contact your [local office of the Ministry of the Environment](#) well in advance of the planned work to discuss the disruption and measures that will be taken to minimize the potential for raw or partially treated sewage to be discharged to the environment while the work is being performed.

**Question 3.5 Do you have bypasses and overflows from your sewage works?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Do you have a collection system as part of your sewage works?
- Do you occasionally bypass components of your sewage works?
- Do you have combined sewers in your collection system?
- Do you have a Pollution Prevention Control Plan or other program in place to minimize sewage bypasses and overflows?

Yes  No

Some sewage works approvals will specifically address **bypasses** and **overflows**, and the associated monitoring and reporting requirements during these events.

Generic direction is also specified in:

- [Guideline F-5-1](#) Determination of Treatment Requirements for Municipal and Private Sewage Treatment Works Discharging to Surface Waters

- [Guideline F-5-5](#) Determination of Treatment Requirements for Municipal and Private Combined and Partially Separated Sewer Systems.

Guideline F-5-5 requires each operating authority with a **combined sewer system** to develop a **Pollution Prevention and Control Plan** to address the impact of **combined sewer overflows**.

**Question 3.6 Does your facility need to be classified, and do you require a certified operator, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 129 (Licensing of Sewage Works Operators)?**

Yes  No

Facility classification and licensing of sewage works operators is regulated under the Licensing of Sewage Works Operators Regulation ([Ontario Regulation 129/04](#)) made under the [Ontario Water Resources Act](#). All applicable facilities must be classified in accordance with the regulation and comply with operator certification requirements.

The regulation applies to:

- A **sewage works** which requires ministry approval and is owned or operated by the Crown or a municipality.
- A sewage works which requires ministry approval that is not owned or operated by the Crown or a municipality, if any sewage received by the sewage works is,
  - toilet, sink or culinary liquid waste, or
  - other sewage of a kind normally discharged from a residential subdivision, other than **stormwater**, ground water, surface drainage or land drainage.

Unless specified in the facility's approval, **subsurface sewage disposal works** (e.g. septic systems), and industrial sewage works do not need to be classified or have a certified operator.

The operator certification program (and all applicable testing) is administered by the [Ontario Water Wastewater Certification Office \(OWWCO\)](#) on behalf of the Ministry of the Environment.

You can get more information about operator certification [Operator Training and Certification page](#).

**Question 3.7** Your facility's sewage works approval, control documents (as applicable), and legislation, policies and guidelines list things you must do. Has your facility met all of these requirements?

In answering this question you should consider:

- Does your approval specify operation and maintenance requirements?
- Does your approval specify monitoring and reporting requirements and/or effluent limits?
- Is your facility subject to the Effluent Monitoring and Effluent Limits Regulations under the Environmental Protection Act (industrial plants)?
- Are you meeting the limits and monitoring requirements specified in the ministry's F-series Guidelines (plants that discharge to surface water)?
- Has a control document been issued for your sewage works?

Yes       No

Operation and maintenance requirements, monitoring and reporting requirements, and effluent limits can be specified in a number of ways.

This includes

- Approval requirements
- **Control documents**,
- Sector specific legislation such as the Effluent Monitoring and Effluent Limits Regulations made under the [Environmental Protection Act](#)
- Documents such as the ministry's [F-series Guidelines](#) and related procedures.

The Ministry of the Environment has the power under both the [Ontario Water Resources Act](#) and the Environmental Protection Act to initiate **abatement** and **enforcement** actions if the specified conditions are not being met.

By not following all the **Environmental Compliance Approval** and regulatory requirements while operating your facility, you may have the potential to cause harm to human health and/or the environment. The ministry will consider violations on a case-by-case basis, guided by the ministry's [compliance policy](#).

The ministry's response may include one or more of the following: voluntary **abatement**, issuing a control document, and/or investigating which may lead to a possible prosecution.

If you have not met, or know you will not be able to meet, a legal requirement related to constructing, operating or maintaining your sewage works, you should contact your [local](#)

[office of the Ministry of the Environment](#) to discuss how you can bring the facility into **compliance**.

**Question 3.8 Is hauled sewage (septage) generated by the sewage works picked up by carriers and disposed of at sites with the appropriate approvals?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Does your sewage works generate hauled sewage (e.g. septic system or holding tank)?
- Have you verified that your waste hauler has approval from the Ministry of the Environment to transport waste?
- Do you know where the hauled sewage goes when it leaves your facility?

Yes       No

Hauled sewage (septage) is defined as a waste in [Ontario Regulation 347](#) (General - Waste Management) made under the [Environmental Protection Act](#). Section 27 of the Act requires Ministry of the Environment approval for the both the transport (waste management system) and disposal (waste disposal site) of wastes.

It is your responsibility to ensure all **hauled sewage** removed from your facility is:

- Transported by a carrier with an approved waste management system
- Deposited at an approved waste disposal site or dedicated septage treatment facility (e.g. composting, alkaline stabilization, dewatering trenches).

The approval number for all carriers and receiving sites should be recorded in your operation and maintenance logs as a best management practice.

**Question 3.9 Do you have operation and maintenance programs in place at your facility?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Do you have an operations and maintenance manual for the sewage works?
- Are procedures (contingency plans) in place to deal with an emergency?
- Are procedures in place to deal with complaints from the public or external parties?

Yes       No

Operation and maintenance programs are a typical **Environmental Compliance Approval** (ECA) requirement or condition. One of the primary goals of implementing

operation and maintenance programs is to ensure that you limit and maintain your sewage works in accordance with the regulations and your ECA.

Operating procedures required by an ECA usually relate to the proper operation of process and pollution control equipment to minimize the potential to negatively impact the natural environment.

Maintenance manuals outline the nature and frequency of the maintenance to be performed. These manuals should be reviewed regularly and include details on when the maintenance was performed; and documentation (such as a checklist) detailing who services the equipment, what services were performed and when they were performed.

Additional operating procedures and maintenance programs may be required in your ECA and will likely include procedures and programs recommended by the original equipment manufacturer. Refer to the specific condition(s) in your ECA to determine the requirements for your facility.

Operations and maintenance programs should be considered for all sewage works even if they are not required by the approval. These programs should include, but not be limited to,

- Operating procedures for routine operation
- Inspection programs, including frequency of inspection and the methods or tests employed to detect when maintenance is necessary
- Repair and maintenance programs, including the frequency of repair and maintenance
- Procedures for inspecting and calibrating monitoring equipment (as applicable)
- A **spill** prevention control and countermeasures plan, consisting of contingency plans and procedures for dealing with equipment breakdowns, potential spills and any other abnormal situations
- Procedures for receiving, responding to, and recording public complaints, including recording any follow up actions taken.

**Question 3.10** Have you completed all of the required and recommended actions as a result of any previous inspections completed by the Ministry of the Environment?

Yes       No

Facilities are identified for [inspection](#) using a risk based process, and may be conducted when:

- **Non-compliance** items were identified during a previous inspection, and there is a need to verify appropriate corrective actions have been undertaken

- There has not been a previous inspection or there has not been an inspection for a significant period of time
- Spill reports or complaints have been received by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE)
- The **sewage works** approval is outdated and may no longer accurately reflects site characteristics.

All inspections findings and required actions will be communicated to the owner in the form of an inspection report.

If your facility has been inspected but you do not have the inspection report, you can contact your [local ministry district office](#) to obtain a copy. For inspections conducted by **MOE's Sector Compliance Branch** call 1-866-482-9967.

The ministry will identify required actions in your inspection report that can be based on a number of issues, such as legislative **non-compliance** or environmental impact. These required actions normally have a completion date by which you must report and verify to the ministry that the identified required work or actions have been completed for your facility. Failure to comply with the required actions resulting from an inspection may cause environmental impacts and could result in further **abatement** action or charges being laid.

Recommended actions can be based on a number of issues that are not directly related to a legislated requirement; however, these environmental issues are normally preventive in nature. Recommended actions may include, for example, implementing a **spill** response plan.

### **Question 3.11 Are you aware of additional legislation that may impact your sewage works?**

Yes       No

There are numerous regulatory and policy instruments that apply to **sewage works** in addition to those that have already been discussed:

- The [Toxics Reduction Act](#) and the [Toxics Reduction Regulation](#) (Ontario Regulation 455/09) apply to Ontario facilities where manufacturing activities or mineral processing activities take place (except physical extraction, crushing and grinding) and the facility is required to provide information under the [National Pollutant Release Inventory \(NPRI\)](#) or the [Airborne Contaminant Discharge Monitoring and Reporting Regulation \(Ontario Regulation 127/01\)](#) made under the [Environmental Protection Act](#) for acetone.

- [Regulation 267/03 \(General\)](#) made under the [Nutrient Management Act](#) sets rules and guidelines for applying non-agricultural source materials (NASM) to farmland. NASM includes pulp and paper biosolids and sewage biosolids.
- The [Environmental Penalties Regulation](#) (Ontario Regulation 222/07) made under the [Environmental Protection Act](#) applies to facilities that are part of the nine industrial sectors regulated by the [Effluent Monitoring and Effluent Limits Regulations](#), and give the ministry the authority to impose administrative monetary penalties when industrial facilities **spill**.

**Question 3.12 Do you, and your staff (as applicable), know that the Ministry of the Environment has a Spills Action Centre that operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can be contacted by phone at 1-800-268-6060?**

In answering this question you should consider:

- Is the number for the Spills Action Center prominently displayed at your facility?
- Are there written procedures in place defining what a spill is and outlining the appropriate response to spill events?

Yes       No

The ministry's [Spills Action Centre](#) operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and can be contacted by phone at 1-800-268-6060.

When **pollutants** are spilled into the natural environment, the ministry's primary role is to ensure that whoever is responsible for the **spill** mitigates the **adverse effect** and restores the natural environment in accordance with the applicable environmental legislation and ministry guidelines. Spills are required to be reported immediately or as soon as practicable to the ministry.

The [Spills Action Centre](#) receives documents and coordinates responses to province-wide reports of spills and other environmental matters.

"Spills" are defined in [Part X of the Environmental Protection Act](#) as the discharge of pollutants into the natural environment originating from a structure, vehicle, or other container, and that are abnormal in quality or quantity in light of all the circumstances of the discharge.

Part X of the EPA requires spills to be reported forthwith by the person having control of the pollutant that is spilled and any person who causes or permits a spill of a pollutant. Part X also requires the **owner of the pollutant spilled**, and the **person who had control of the pollutant** spilled to promptly clean up and restore the environment if the spill causes or is likely to cause an adverse effect. There may be other additional measures that have to be taken following a spill, such as correcting the conditions that resulted in a spill and ensuring that preventative measures are implemented.

If you believe you may have a spill or another type of environmental emergency, call the Spills Action Centre. Failure to report the spill of a **pollutant** to the ministry is an offence. It is the responsibility of the owner and controller of the pollutant to clean up a spill. When those under statutory duties cannot or will not respond adequately, the Ministry has the authority under the EPA to order those responsible for the spill to clean up the site. Should they fail to comply with such orders the ministry can undertake the cleanup and recover costs from the polluter.

The Classification and Exemption of Spills and Reporting of Discharges Regulation ([Ontario Regulation 675/98](#)) made under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), classifies 11 types of spills, circumstances, industry type or activities that are exempt from all or part of [Part X of the EPA](#) duties and responsibilities under specified conditions.

Ontario Regulation 675/98 also encourages those who manage substances that may spill, to evaluate potential risks within their operations and to develop appropriate spill prevention and contingency plans. A “Class X Spill” under Ontario Regulation 675/98 is one addressed in a spill contingency plan that meets certain standards for relatively small and manageable spills.

Under section 91.1 of the [Environmental Protection Act](#), a **regulated person** shall develop and implement plans to prevent or reduce risk of spills of pollutants, and to prevent, eliminate or ameliorate any **adverse effects** that result or may result from spills of pollutants. The plan must include:

- Steps to notify the ministry, other public authorities and members of the public who may be affected by the spill, and
- Measures to ensure that appropriate equipment, material and personnel are available to respond to a spill.

A spill prevention and contingency plan may provide you with a reporting exemption for spills (under Class X of Ontario Regulation 675/98) and can be used to minimize the impacts and risks of spills. Under the Spill Prevention and Contingency Plan Regulation ([Ontario Regulation 224/07](#)) made under the EPA, Spill Prevention and Contingency Plans, the ministry has developed a guideline to assist you with developing and implementing a spill prevention and contingency plan for your facility.

You must fully understand the application of Ontario Regulation 675/98 prior to evaluating whether or not a spill is reportable to the ministry or any other regulatory agency. If you have any questions about spills, refer to the information in this self assessment and/or contact either the Spills Action Centre or your [local ministry district office](#).

**Question 3.13 Are you implementing any beyond compliance measures at your facility?**

Yes       No

A beyond compliance measure (best management practice) is a plant-based pollution prevention or reduction project that aims to benefit human health or the environment beyond the requirements of the law. Beyond compliance measures may include water conservation to reduce the amount of **effluent** received by the **sewage works**, recovery and reuse of process effluents, use of low phosphate/phosphate free soaps, etc.

Beyond compliance measures are proactively put in place to improve operations and minimize the potential for adverse human health and environmental impacts. Examples of best management practices are available from various resources such as the [Canadian Water and Wastewater Association](#), [Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association](#), [National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association](#), and local Health Units and conservation authorities.

Well done. You have now completed your first Sewage Program Self Assessment.

Your responses may also trigger the need to contact your local office of the Ministry of the Environment to discuss approval and/or operator certification requirements. You can use this form on a regular basis, such as bi-annually, to assist you with reviewing the environmental impact of your operations. Please feel free to elaborate on your answers and keep this information as part of your Self Assessment. Using your responses as a benchmark, you can now work towards environmental improvement.

Thank you for participating in this Sewage Program Self Assessment project, and for doing your part to promote and encourage protection of human health and the environment.

## Glossary

**Abatement:** an action that is taken by a facility to achieve compliance that includes education/outreach, warnings and issuance of control documents.

**Adverse Effect:** impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it; injury or damage to property or to plant or animal life; harm or material discomfort to any person; an adverse effect on the health of any person; impairment of the safety of any person; rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for human use; loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; or, interference with the normal conduct of business.

**Bypass:** flows that are diverted from a part of the sewage treatment process, but are discharged to the environment through the final effluent outfall of the sewage treatment plant.

**Combined Sewer System:** a collection system designed to convey both sanitary and stormwater runoff through a single pipe to a sewage treatment works.

**Compliance:** a state achieved when a person who is bound by a provision of an Act, regulation, control document or authorizing document acts in accordance with applicable provisions of ministry legislation, regulations, and any control or authorizing documents.

**Control Document (Orders, Direction, or Notice):** an authority under ministry legislation to require a person to deal with a violation or other types of incidents. Ministry legislation authorizes Provincial Officers, Directors, the Minister or a court to issue control documents, and they include orders, directions, reports and notices. A control document imposes legal obligations on the person as opposed to allowing the person to deal with the incident voluntarily.

**Director:** a person appointed as a Director in writing by the Minister under section 5 of the Environmental Protection Act or the Ontario Water Resources Act, or other relevant legislation.

**Effluent:** waste or wastewater that flows out from a treatment plant or individual treatment process.

**Enforcement:** prosecuting alleged violators for the purpose of punishing wrongdoing and deterring further non-compliance. Prosecutions are commenced and conducted under the Provincial Offences Act (POA), and include issuing a Certificate of Offence (ticket) or summons under Part I of the POA, as well as the laying of charges under Part III of the POA.

**Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR):** The Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR) is an online self-registration system. It replaced the approvals process for specific activities and sectors prescribed in regulation(s) that are considered routine, standard, or well-understood. A person engaging in these activities registers the activity on the EASR. The EASR is accessible through the Service Ontario website at [www.serviceontario.ca](http://www.serviceontario.ca).

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**Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA):** the name of the approval that is issued in respect of section 9 and 27 activities under the Environmental Protection Act and section 53 activities under the Ontario Water Resources Act as of October 31, 2011. An ECA replaces a Certificate of Approval (CofA); as such, a CofA will automatically be treated as an ECA as of October 31, 2011 – it is not required to be replaced. ECAs are also referred to as approvals, or MOE approvals throughout this document.

**Financial Assurance:** the provision of financial security by a regulated party. It can be required to ensure compliance with environmental objectives; ensure that requirements are achieved by a specified deadline; or ensure that funds are available for future clean-up and remediation of landfills and other contaminated sites which require long-term care and monitoring.

**Hauled Sewage (Septage):** contents removed from septic tanks, portable toilets, privy vaults and holding tanks serving houses, schools, motels, mobile home parks, campgrounds and small commercial endeavours, all receiving sewage from domestic sources. Septage is raw and untreated.

**Ministry:** Ministry of the Environment (MOE), unless otherwise stated.

**MOE's Sector Compliance Branch (SCB):** complements the compliance and enforcement work of the field offices to ensure compliance with Ontario's environmental laws by selecting sectors (e.g. wind farms, petrochemical, automotive) to inspect on an annual basis, based on the sectors' compliance history and the potential for human health and/or environmental impacts.

**Non-compliance:** failure to meet a provision of an Act, regulation, control document or authorizing document.

**Overflows:** A combined sewer overflow is a discharge to the environment from a combined sewer system. A sanitary sewer overflow is a discharge to the environment from a sanitary sewer system. A sewage treatment plant overflow is a discharge to the environment from a sewage treatment works at a location other than the final effluent outfall or downstream of the sampling point in the final effluent outfall.

**Owner of a pollutant:** the owner of the pollutant immediately before the first discharge of the pollutant, whether into the natural environment or not, in a quantity or with a quality abnormal at the location where the discharge occurs.

**Person having control of a pollutant:** the person and the person's employee or agent, if any, having the charge, management or control of a pollutant immediately before the first discharge of the pollutant, whether into the natural environment or not, in a quantity or with a quality abnormal at the location where the discharge occurs.

**Pollutant:** a contaminant other than heat, sound, vibration or radiation.

**Pollution Prevention Control Plan (PPCP):** a plan outlining the nature, cause, and extent of pollution problems associated with **combined sewer overflows**. The PPCP examines alternatives, proposes remedial measures, and provides recommendations for implementation.

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**Provincial Officer:** any person designated as such under section 5 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) or the Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA), or other relevant legislation. A Provincial Officer is a peace officer for the purpose of enforcing the legislation they are designated under.

**Pre-application Consultation:** a dialogue between the proponent, the ministry, and possibly the public, prior to the submission of an application for approval. Pre-application consultation is meant to assist proponents in defining the environmental objectives for the project, such as effluent requirements, determining the requirements regarding characterisation of the source of raw water, establishing general acceptability of the proposed technology, identifying any special approval related requirements, and determining the need for public consultation/notification.

**Regulated Person:** persons who are or were members of the class of persons described in subsection 3 (1) of the [Environmental Penalties Regulation \(Ontario Regulation 222/07\)](#) made under the Environmental Protection Act.

**Responsibility Agreement:** legal agreements between a municipal authority and developer which stipulate the conditions under which communal sewage services will be constructed, operated and maintained, as well as, the action to be undertaken in the event of owner default. Responsibility agreements require up-front secured funds for any remedial measures that may be necessary in the event of default.

**Sanitary Sewage:** includes domestic, commercial and industrial sewage.

**Sewage:** Sewage is defined to include drainage, storm water, commercial wastes and industrial wastes and such other matter or substance as is specified by the regulations in the Ontario Water Resources Act.

**Sewage System:** defined in the Ontario Building Code (Regulation 350 under the Building Code Act) as

- a) a chemical toilet, an incinerating toilet, a recirculating toilet, a self-contained portable toilet and all forms of privy including a portable privy, an earth pit privy, a pail privy, a privy vault and a composting toilet system,
- b) a greywater system,
- c) a cesspool,
- d) a leaching bed system
- e) a system that requires or uses a holding tank for the retention of hauled sewage at the site where it is produced before its collection by a hauled sewage system, where these:
  - have a design capacity of 10,000 litres per day or less,
  - have, in total, a design capacity of 10,000 litres per day or less, where more than one of these are located on a lot or parcel of land, and
  - are located wholly within the boundaries of the lot or parcel of land on which is located the building or buildings they serve.

Jump back to: [Intro](#) [Section 1](#) [Question 1.5](#) [Section 2](#) [Section 3](#) [Question 3.5](#)

**Sewage Works:** any works for the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of sewage or any part of such works, but does not include plumbing to which the Building Code Act, 1992 applies.

**Spill:** when used with reference to a **pollutant**, means a discharge into the natural environment from or out of a structure, vehicle or other container; and, that is abnormal in quality or quantity in light of all the circumstances of the discharge, and when used as a verb has a corresponding meaning.

**Stormwater:** rain, melted snow or any other form of precipitation that has come into contact with the ground or any other surface. This water seeps into the ground, is absorbed by vegetation, evaporates or runs off the land into storm sewers, streams and lakes.

**Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems:** sewage systems, such as septic systems, which discharge below the ground surface and are regulated under the Building Code Act.

**Subsurface Sewage Disposal Works:** Subsurface sewage disposal works are sewage works, such as septic systems, which discharge below the ground surface and are regulated by the Ministry of the Environment.

## Resources

### **Canadian Water and Wastewater Association**

[http://www.cwwa.ca/home\\_e.asp](http://www.cwwa.ca/home_e.asp)

### **Conservation Ontario – Drinking Water Source Protection**

<http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca/what-we-do/source-water-protection>

### **Design Guidelines for Sewage Works**

<http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/design-guidelines-sewage-works>

### **e-Laws**

<http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/index.html>

### **Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch (EAAISB)**

12A - 2 St. Clair Avenue West

Toronto ON M4V 1L5

Telephone outside Toronto 1-800-461-6290 or in Toronto 416-314-8001

Fax: 416-314-8452

E-mail: [eaasibgen@ontario.ca](mailto:eaasibgen@ontario.ca)

### **Environmental Compliance Approvals**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/environmental-approvals>

### **Environmental Penalties**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/guideline-implementing-environmental-penalties-ontario-regulations-22207-and>

### **Financial Assurance Guideline, Guideline F-15**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/f-15-financial-assurance-guideline>

### **Great Lakes – Taking Action With Our Partners**

[http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/subject/great\\_lakes/index.htm](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/subject/great_lakes/index.htm)

### **Guideline B-7 “Incorporation of the Reasonable Use Concept into MOEE Groundwater Management Activities”**

[http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STD01\\_076322.html](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STD01_076322.html)

### **Lake Simcoe Protection Plan**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/lake-simcoe-protection-plan>

### **Wastewater operators: training and licenses**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/wastewater-operators-training-and-licences>

**Ministry of the Environment Regional and District Offices**

<http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/ministry-environment-regional-and-district-offices>

**National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association**

<http://www.nowra.org/>

601 Wythe Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Toll Free: (800) 966-2942  
Fax: (703) 535-5263

**Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association**

<http://www.oowa.org/>

P.O. Box 831  
Cobourg, ON K9A 4S3  
Telephone: 905-372-2722

**Ontario Rural Wasterwater Centre**

<http://www.orwc.uoguelph.ca/>

Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre  
University of Guelph, School of Engineering  
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1  
Telephone: 519 824 4120 x 54687  
Fax: 519 836 0227

**Ontario Wastewater Certification Office (OWWCO)**

[www.owwco.ca](http://www.owwco.ca)

Etobicoke, ON M9B 6C7  
Phone: 416-231-2100 or 1-877-231-2122  
Fax: 416-231-2107  
E-mail: [info@owwco.ca](mailto:info@owwco.ca)

**Provincial Policy Statement**

<http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page215.aspx>

**Procedure B-1-5 “Deriving Receiving Water Based, Point Source Effluent Requirements for Ontario Waters” (PIBS #3302)**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/b-1-5-deriving-receiving-water-based-point-source-effluent-requirements>

**Service Ontario**

[www.serviceontario.ca](http://www.serviceontario.ca)

Telephone, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

(416) 326-5300

(416) 325-3408 TTY

1-800-668-9938 Toll free across Canada

**1-800-268-7095 TTY Toll free across Ontario**

**ServiceOntario Centre**

College Park Building

777 Bay Street, Market Level

(Corner of Bay and College  
Streets)

TORONTO

Monday to Friday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (excluding  
holidays)

or

**Government Service  
Centre**

110 Laurier Street West

OTTAWA

Monday to Friday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

(excluding holidays)

**Water Environment Association of Ontario**

<http://www.weao.org/>

PO Box 176

Milton, ON L9T 4N9

Telephone: 416-410-6933

Fax: 416-410-1626

**Water and Sewage Works Approvals, sample applications, guides and resources**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/water-and-sewage-works-approvals-sample-applications-guides-and-resources>

**Water Opportunities Act**

[http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_10w19\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_10w19_e.htm)

**What to Expect When an Environmental Officer Inspects Your Facility  
(PIBS# 4888e)**

<https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/what-expect-when-environmental-officer-inspects-your-facility-brief-guide>

